

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1014
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Welfare Fund to provide financial assistance to the agricultural workers to raise their standard of living;
- (b) whether some State Governments have opposed the proposal;
- (c) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision to implement this proposal;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

@@ MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) @@

(a) to (e): A proposal to enact a comprehensive Central legislation for agricultural workers is under consideration of the Government which inter-alia includes creation of a Welfare Fund for providing certain welfare/social security measures i.e. financial assistance in the case of death or injury, payment of group insurance premium, health, maternity benefits, old age pension, housing and children's education etc. to these workers. There were certain reservations expressed by some of the State Governments on some of the components of the draft legislation. As it is the endeavour of the Government to reach a consensus, a Conference of the State Labour Ministers was held on 18.1.2000 in New Delhi when views of the State Governments were obtained. The proposal is being re-examined on the basis of the views/comments of the State Governments.

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